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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 22
By Caldwell

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of James Freeman Vines
of Oak Ridge.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of James Freeman Vines; and

WHEREAS, Jim Vines was a native Oak Ridger who attended Highland View Elementary School, Robertsville Junior High and was a 1978 graduate of Oak Ridge High School; he attended Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee; Mr. Vines was the son of L. P. "Pete" and Kathleen "Kay" Vines; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vines had been elected by the voters of District 6 in West Oak Ridge to serve on the Anderson County Commission in 1994; he was in the second year of his second term, having served on the Budget, Legislative, Nominating and Rules Committees of the Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Jim Vines was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; as a county commissioner he strongly advocated issues for the children of Anderson County and initiated a county-wide Healthy Start program now operating through the Anderson County Health Council to aid first-time parents in learning nurturing and parenting skills; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vines was always vitally interested in the economic and social health of Anderson County; he served on the Anderson County Utility Board, the Regional Solid Waste Planning Board, as an original member of the board of Comprehensive Resource Evaluation and Application Model (now the Children's Advocacy Network), and the Anderson County and the Oak Ridge Chambers of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Jim Vines was active in the Optimists and the Jaycees, and was a recipient of the Outstanding Young Men of America award in 1987; he was a member of the Oak Ridge Sports Hall of Fame. Mr. Vines enjoyed the enduring affection and respect of a number of fast friends from his activities in school, sports, the Boys Club, communications and government, all of whom are quick to extol his abilities, loyalty and generosity of spirit; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vines served with uncommon ability as owner and operator of Good Stuff Advertising, and of Freeman Communications, a television and video production company; his skill in these roles and the exemplary quality of his work earned him the respect of all who worked with him; and

WHEREAS, Jim Vines was an active and devout member of Grace Lutheran Church; he was active in many service organizations, including service on the boards of the American Heart Association, the Anderson County Health Council and the Oak Ridge Boys' Club, where he had been a staff member and program director in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Jim Vine was active in the Boy's Club from about age 6, mentoring younger boys as he grew older and being named "Boy of the Year in 1978" for his contributions to the club and to the community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vines was widely known and loved within his community through his co-hosting, along with Joe Gaddis, of "Coach's Corner" from 1988 to 1997, his color commentary for Oak Ridge youth sports at radio station WATO, and as a volunteer coach for more than 20 years in basketball, baseball, football and softball; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vines was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Jim Vines enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife Anita and was the proud parent of Wesley; he will be sorely missed by his wife and son; his parents; his sisters and brothers-in-law, Carol and Bill Price and Wanda Vines and Rick Wallace; his sister-in-law, Pat Vines; his uncle, A.J. Norris; members of his wife's family and a number of cousins, nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vines leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of James Freeman Vines, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Jim Vines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.